

OCTOBER BREW.
2 miles from Hand.
SHANGHAI BREWERY,
DRAUGHT ALE & STOUT,
also 10 pints, bottled.
For prices, etc.

APRIL 10
COTTAM & CO.,
S. Pader's St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

NEW SERIES NO. 496 日二十月二年二十二號

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1897.

四月十四日正英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

NOTES.
THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital £1,000,000
Subscribed Capital £1,000,000

HEAD OFFICE: HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:
D. Gillies, Esq. Chow Tung Shang, Esq.
H. Stalteroff, Esq. Kwan Ho Chuen, Esq.
Chan Kit Shan, Esq.

Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months fixed, 5 per cent.
Hongkong, 2nd October, 1896.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND \$6,000,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
A. McCONACHE, Esq.—Chairman.
St. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.
Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, R. L. Richardson, Esq.
C. Herrmann, Esq. D. R. Sassoon, Esq.
G. B. Dodwell, Esq. R. Stewart, Esq.
M. D. Ecclestone, Esq. N. A. Sleath, Esq.
R. M. Gray, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER:
Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED
On Current Account at the rate of 3 per cent.
per annum on the daily balance.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 3½ per cent. per annum.
For 6 months, 3¾ per cent. per annum.
For 12 months, 4 per cent. per annum.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1896.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ per
cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED
DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st August, 1895.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP \$800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE
HOLDERS \$800,000
RESERVE FUND \$350,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 3 per cent. per
annum on the Daily Balance.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 4 per cent.
" " 6 " " 3½ "
" " 3 " " 2½ "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.
Hongkong, 10th October, 1896.

NOTICE.

M. CARL WILHELM LONGUET has
THIS DAY been admitted a PARTNER
in our FIRM.

KRUSE & CO.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1897.

THE HONGKONG BUTCHERY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ALL DEBTS DUE to the above FIRM
should be PAID promptly to the Under-
signed.

J. TATAM,
By his Attorney G. A. WATKINS,
c/o Apothecaries' Hall.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1897.

NOTIFICATIONS.

FOR SALE.

PORT WINE.

THE CELEBRATED GUEDES "3 GRAPES" BRAND.

In cases of 1 doz. Bottles at \$24 per case.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1896.

SHewan Tones & Co.,
Sole Agents.

126

MOUNT AUSTIN
HOTEL.

1,400 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:

"EXCELSIOR" Hongkong.

A. B. C. Code.

THE TEMPERATURE IS AT LEAST 10 DEGREES COOLER THAN IN

QUEEN'S ROAD.

TIFFIN AT 1 P.M.

ARRANGEMENTS can be made for TIFFIN or DINNER PARTIES in

PRIVATE DINING ROOM.

For further Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER,

MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL.

124

Telephone, No. 35.

Consumption of Petroleum 15. per H.P. and Hour.

A Working Stationary Engine and a Launch with a 4 H.P.

Engines will be shown and full particulars be given on application.

SCHEBLE & CO., Hongkong.

125

No PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS REQUIRED.

126

NOTICES.

THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE
COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1884.

CAPITAL £2,000,000

TOTAL FUNDS AND SECURITY £4,800,013

NET ANNUAL FIRE PREMIUM £757,478

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the
above Company we are prepared to
accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS
at CURRENT RATES.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1897.

127

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undesignated AGENTS of the above
Company are prepared to accept First
Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at
CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSSSEN & CO.

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1895.

128

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000

EQUAL TO £33,333-33-

RESERVE FUND £318,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq. LO YEEU MOON, Esq.

LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS OR GOODS, &c., taken
at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the
World.

HEAD OFFICE, 5 & 6, PRAYA WEST,
Hongkong, 11th December, 1896.

129

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED \$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on Goods,
etc. Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

CHAU TSUNG FAT,
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST,
Hongkong, 26th May, 1894.

130

NOTICE.

HONGKONG SMOKING CONCERT CLUB.

SEASON 1896-97.

THE SECOND CONCERT of the SEASON
will be held in the THEATRE on SATUR-
DAY, the 16th of January, at 9 P.M.

By kind permission of Captains CHICHEREE
and OFFICERS, the BAND of H.M.S. "Immortalis"

will be in attendance.

Chairman—Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

WILLIAM S. FROUD, R.N.,
Honorary Secretary.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1897.

131

MASONIC.

VICTORIA L. CHAPTER,
No. 525, E.C.

A N EMERGENCY CONVOCATION of the
above CHAPTER will be held in the
FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, TO-MOR-
ROW, the 15th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m.
precisely. Visiting Companions are cordially
invited to attend.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1897.

132

NOTICE.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF

HONGKONG, No. 1,165.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above
LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS'

HALL, Zetland Street, on SATURDAY,

the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m.

Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1897.

133

VICTORIA PRECEPTORY AND PRIORY.

A REGULAR MEETING of the VICTORIA
PRECEPTORY and PRIORY will be

held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street,

TUESDAY, the 19th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m.

Visiting Sir Knights are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1897.

134

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG BUTCHERY.

THIS DAY been admitted a PARTNER

in our FIRM.

KRUSE & CO.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1897.

135

NOTIFICATIONS.

FOR SALE.

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Hongkong, 17th December, 1896.

126

SHewan Tones & Co.,
Sole Agents.

125

MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL.

1,400 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

TELEPHONE, No. 35.

124

THE TEMPERATURE IS AT LEAST 10 DEGREES COOLER THAN IN

QUEEN'S ROAD.

DINNER AT 8 P.M.

ARRANGEMENTS can be made for TIFFIN or DINNER PARTIES in

PRIVATE DINING ROOM.

KO-DAP'S
Advertisements.

ELITE SKATING RINK,
DUDDLE STREET.

TO-NIGHT AND EVERY EVENING,
AT 9 P.M.

TONIGHT (THURSDAY), the 14th January,
BOXING.

SATURDAY, the 16th January.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of
H.E. the Governor Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON,
K.C.M.G., F.F.S.S.,
H.E. Sir General WILSON BLACK, C.B.,
GRAND MILITARY CONCERT,

by the (P.W.O.) West Yorkshire
Regiment and Pipe Band.

By kind permission of Col. C. S. GORDON and
OFFICERS of the Battalion.

The Concert to conclude with a Grand Finale
entitled BRITISH ARMY QUADRILLES.

SEATS may be booked at W. ROBINSON'S
Music Rooms, Queen's Road.

Admission, 3s. Received Seats, 3s. 1d.
SAM MARKS,
Proprietor.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [6]

GEO. FENWICK AND COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA
ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
of this COMPANY will be held at the HONGKONG
HOTEL on THURSDAY, the 1st day of
January, 1897, at Half-past Eleven of the clock
in the Forenoon, when the resolution which was
passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of
the Company held on the 29th day of December,
1896, will be submitted for confirmation as a
Special Resolution.

A printed copy of the Resolution can be seen
on application to the General Manager.

By Order,
W. G. WINTERBURN,
General Manager.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [144]



NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

HONGKONG-JINSEN LINE.

FOR SHANGHAI, CHEFOO, JINSEN
AND NAGASAKI.

THE Company's Steamship.

"SENDAI MARU."

Captain C. Olsen, will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 16th instant, at 4 P.M.,
instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [102]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT).

THE Company's Steamship.

"ZAFIRO."

Captain Cobban, will be despatched for the
above Port on SATURDAY, the 16th instant, at
4 P.M.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation
for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TONES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [147]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship.

"PYRRHUS."

Captain Batt, will be despatched as above on
MONDAY, the 18th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [209]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI, VIA CHEFOO.

THE Company's Steamship.

"WHAMPOA."

Captain Anderson, will be despatched as above
MONDAY, the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [143]



NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-BOMBAY LINE.

MONTHLY SERVICE
(Under Mail Contract)

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND
BOMBAY.

(Calling at TUTICORIN on the homeward
voyage)

THE Company's Steamship.

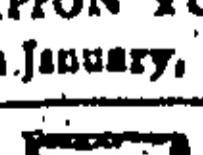
"IDIZUMI MARU."

Captain J. M. Curran, will be despatched as above
on WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [145]



NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-EUROPE LINE.

MONTHLY SERVICE.

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, PORT SAID,
MARSEILLE, LONDON AND
ANTWERP.

THE Company's Chartered Steamship.

"STRATHTAY."

Captain McKenzie, will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 6th January, at 5 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [145]

KO-DAP'S
Advertisements.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI, VIA AMOY.
(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates
for NINGPO, CHINTO, HANKOW and PORTS
on the YANGTZE.)

THE Company's Steamship.

"DIOMED."

Captain Bartlett, will be despatched as above

TO-MORROW, the 15th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [242]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR YOKOHAMA (DIRECT).

THE Company's Steamship.

"AMARA."

Captain W. E. Kent, will be despatched as above
TO-MORROW, the 15th instant, at 4 P.M.,
instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [111]

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship.

"NANYANG."

Captain Th. Lehmann, will be despatched for the above
Port TO-MORROW, the 15th instant, at 4 P.M.,
instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SIEMSSON & Co.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [121]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR

STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA,
ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN
PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL and
AMERICAN PORTS).

THE Steamship.

"ROSETTA."

Captain F. N. Tillard, carrying Her Majesty's
Mail, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY,
on THURSDAY, the 28th January, at
Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above
Ports.

SHIP and Valuables, all Cargo for France
and Tea for London (under arrangement) will
be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer
proceeding direct to Marseilles and London.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4
P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and
Value of all Packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note
the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills
of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to

H. A. RITCHIE,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1897. [5]

THE CAREW CASE.

M. DICKINSON AND HIS LOVE
LETTERS.

SHANGHAI, January 14th.

Miss Jacobs has been remanded on bail until
Monday week.

The trial of Mrs. Carew was resumed yester-
day.

Mr. Dickinson was compelled to read his love-
letters in Court, which caused sensation.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

FORMOSA is now absolutely free of plague.

THREE have been seven cases of small-pox here
during the last 14 days, two of the number having
come from ships.

TELEGRAPHIC communication with Yokohama
and Tokio has been interrupted since the morn-
ing owing to heavy snowstorms.

THE SMOKING CONCERT CLUB's second concert of
the season will be given in the Theatre Royal
on Saturday, the 16th Inst., when the Hon. T.
H. Whitehead will preside.

DURING the voyage of the ship *Tucma*, which
arrived here yesterday, the matu's wife died on
board from natural causes. The remains of
the deceased lady were brought out to Hongkong
for interment.

IT is now reported that the cruiser *Rossiya* will
replace the *Nicolai I.* on the China Station, the
Russian Government having decided to retain
as many battleships as possible in the
Mediterranean.

SOme old wooden ships are still serviceable.
The British Mercantile Shipping List mentions
one ship 122 years old; three between 100 and
110 years; four between 100 and 105; thirteen
from 95 to 100; and fourteen from 90 to 95.

WE have received from Messrs. Sperry & Co.,
roller flour millers, of Stockton, Cal., a pretty
wall calendar. It is in the shape of a handkerchief
enclosing pictures of three plump juveniles, who,
it is to be presumed, have been "raised" on
Sperry's best flour.

WE have the best authority for stating that,
subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong
and Shanghai Bank intend to declare a
dividend of £1 5s. for the half-year ending 31st
December, plus 5s. to credit of the Reserve
Fund, and carry forward about 3 lacs of dollars.

THE following is the programme of music to be
played by the West Yorkshire Band at the
Skating Rink on Saturday next, at 9 p.m.:—

1.—March "Loraleis" Geom.

2.—Overture "Majestans" Wallace.

3.—Piano Solo "Midnight and Silence" Wallace.

4.—Piano Solo from "William Tell" E. German.

5.—"Belle Musique" from "William Tell" E. German.

6.—British Army Quadrille "Jules"

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions,
Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong
Telegraph," and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and
not to individual members of the staff.

Complaints regarding publications must be accompanied
by the name and address of the subscriber, not of the publisher.

Whilst the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph* will always
be open for the free discussion by correspondents of all questions
affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood
that Editor will not in any way hold himself responsible for
opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for
insertion in this day's issue not later than Three o'clock so as
not to retard the early publication of the paper.

Advertisers and Subscribers which are not bound for a
certain period will be charged according to the time of delivery.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* is the legitimate representative
of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and is therefore
entitled to receive the same rates of advertisement as
any English newspaper.

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of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and is therefore
entitled to receive the same rates of advertisement as
any English newspaper.

Advertis

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1897.

MASON'S LATEST.

We have received for review from Neville Beaman, Limited, of Salisbury Square, London, a small volume entitled "The Chest of Opium" by Mr. M. It appears to be the second of a series they are giving to the world under the style and title of the "Vagabond Library," of which three numbers have already appeared. It is clearly printed on hand-made paper and neatly bound in green cloth with black and red lettering. We recommend it to our readers for perusal. It is a curious little work. The author is Mr. Mason, whose name so recently figured in the Far Eastern press as the foreign leader or agent of the Koko Hui, and about whom so many different opinions prevailed. Expelled from China, he has taken to literature and is utilising his knowledge and experience of things Chinese in the construction of stories of the "raw head and bloody bones" order on Chinese ground and with Chinese material. The little book before us contains two stories—one, which gives its name to the book and which takes up 145 out of the 167 pages of which the volume consists, is "The Chest of Opium"; the other is a mere sketch entitled "Chinese Horror" and very horrible it is—a Chinese execution and Chinese tortures very graphically and very powerfully described. The author signs up John Chinaman in the following terms, and he is not, perhaps, very much out, after all, in his estimate—

AUCKLAND (N.Z.), December 21st.
A sheep farmer named Bright Cooper, when swimming in the Native beach yesterday, was attacked by a shark twenty-five yards from shore. Two of the man's companions bravely attempted to rescue him, and succeeded in getting Cooper out alive. He was unconscious, however, and died a few minutes after. His left arm had been bitten off, and his right arm, body, and legs were dreadfully lacerated. Cooper was 28 years of age and a prominent athlete.

Tongking, which has been in active eruption for some time, has been successfully ascended and explored by Dr. Friedlander, a German scientist, and Father Kreymborg, with native guides. Brilliant geological specimens were collected and good specimens were secured.

LONDON, December 22nd.
The Anglo-German expedition, formed for the purpose of navigating and exploring Antarctic regions, leaves Melbourne this summer.

SYDNEY, December 24th.
The Chief Justice of New South Wales, in making absolute nineteen decrees nisi, called attention to the fact that in eighteen of the cases the wives were the petitioners.

LONDON, December 27th.
It is reported that a general protest throughout the country has had the effect of compelling the United States Senate to postpone for a week their discussion on the resolution recognising the autonomy of Cuba.

The first story is of the detective order. The scene is laid in Hongkong and at one of the treaty ports on the Yangtze-Wuhu, for choice. It turns on the discovery in an opium chest, opened in the godowns of the Imperial Maritime Customs, of the headless body of a man, and it depicts the efforts of the Acting Commissioner of Customs, who has been studying Sherlock Holmes and who prides himself on his skill in unravelling mysteries, to discover the identity of the murdered man and to find the murderer. While he is vainly seeking a clue in Hongkong, one of his junior assistants, the narrator of the tale, happens on the true story almost by chance at the very port where the discovery was made and comes within an ace of losing his life; and in fact loses his character and his billet, however, as the reward of his success.

The date of the story is fixed at about the time of the coming into operation of the Chico Convention, by which the collection of the opium licker was transferred to the Imperial Maritime Customs, and the trial candidate for the original ownership of the body found in the chest are our friend the late Lo Hok Pang and a missing Tsoai, whose post is coveted by one of his underlings. Which it is we may not tell. In the course of the tale we are introduced to a very terrible personage, "the still existing, still thriving diabolical arch-pirate, Smith of Hongkong" with his powerful steam yacht lying just outside the waters of the Colony, his unscrupulous gang of spies, smugglers, and pirates, and his connection with the attack on the steamship *Nimrod*, which seems to us to be but another name for the unfortunate *Namou*.

"The Chest of Opium" would appear to be Mr. Mason's second or third attempt to enlighten the public about things Chinese. He has published a small volume in the pseudonym library under the title of "The Shen's Pigtail," a story in the *English Illustrated*, "The Piracy of the *Nimrod*."

NEWS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

ADELAIDE, December 17th.
It is cabled that the residence of Cell Rhodes, near Cape Town, has been completely destroyed by fire.

American advises that the Cuban League of New York, formed for the purpose of assisting the rebels in Cuba, is strongly supported by a number of prominent wealthy citizens.

SYDNEY, December 17th.
The abolition of barmalas and prohibition clauses of the new Licensing Bill have been finally rejected by the South Australian Legislative Council.

LONDON, December 18th.
A report from Lisbon states that the British police at Manica have expelled a Portuguese Lieutenant from that place for surveying a site for a military settlement. Manica is a goldfield worked by the Portuguese, 150 miles north-west of the port of Beira, South Africa, at the mouth of the Pungwe River. The area is now mostly included in Matabeleland, but part belongs to the Portuguese.

A telegram from Constantinople states that 45 wives of Abdul Hamid, the Sultan, have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in political matters.

Amongst the Turks recently exiled by order of the Sultan are several Pashas. The death is announced of Tafif Pasha under suspicious circumstances. It is supposed that he was poisoned.

The Government of Brazil has declined to recognise the Cuban insurrectionists as belligerents.

An accident of a most serious character has occurred to Sir James Fergusson, M.P., formerly Governor of South Australia, and at one time Governor of Bombay. Sir James was riding a bicycle this morning, when he had a fall from his machine. He was picked up in an unconscious condition, and his injuries were found to be of a serious nature.

The Government of the Congo Free State has made a claim of £50,000 francs for damage on the property belonging to the late Mr. Sikes, the British trader who was executed by order of Major Lothaire for assisting the natives against the Government. The Marquis of Salisbury has refused to pay the amount.

December 19th.
With reference to the report that the Porte preferred to believe that a general amnesty to Armenian prisoners would provoke a Mussulman rising in Turkey, it is now reported from Constantinople that the Ministers have made a recommendation to the effect that if the Patriarchate entered into a guarantee for the good conduct of 100 persons it would be safe to grant a general amnesty. The Patriarchates offered to undertake to place the leaders of the recent rising and the persons who were condemned to death in mortal sin, and to induce the other prisoners to declare their allegiance to the Sultan.

December 20th.
A law has been passed by the Belgian Senate providing that gambling in stocks and the fictitious delivery of goods shall be regarded as criminal offences. A strong law has also been passed against betting and gambling.

A dynamite outrage, involving the loss of a number of lives, is reported from Italy. A bomb exploded in a chemist's shop at Cassano, a town in the South of Italy. Five persons who were in the place were killed on the spot, while six others were seriously injured.

An interesting case has just been decided by the law courts. An action was brought respecting certain valuable plate and bedroom furniture belonging to the Peel family. The court made an order directing the High Court,

Sir Robert Peel to restore these articles to the family.

ADELAIDE, December 20th.

News comes from Port Darwin of the murder of Mr. Thomas A. Perry, part owner of Cresswell Downs Station, on the island in the Northern Territory. The deceased was shot dead by a blackboy who had been in his employment. Mr. Perry's cousin (Mr. Deloitte) and a man named Clarke were murdered by natives on this station about five or six years ago.

AUCKLAND (N.Z.), December 21st.

A sheep farmer named Bright Cooper, when swimming in the Native beach yesterday, was attacked by a shark twenty-five yards from shore. Two of the man's companions bravely attempted to rescue him, and succeeded in getting Cooper out alive. He was unconscious, however, and died a few minutes after. His left arm had been bitten off, and his right arm, body, and legs were dreadfully lacerated. Cooper was 28 years of age and a prominent athlete.

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LONDON, December 22nd.
The Anglo-German expedition, formed for the purpose of navigating and exploring Antarctic regions, leaves Melbourne this summer.

SYDNEY, December 24th.

The Chief Justice of New South Wales, in making absolute nineteen decrees nisi, called attention to the fact that in eighteen of the cases the wives were the petitioners.

LONDON, December 27th.

It is reported that a general protest throughout the country has had the effect of compelling the United States Senate to postpone for a week their discussion on the resolution recognising the autonomy of Cuba.

December 24th.

News comes that the Bank of Illinois has suspended payment, with a liability amounting to 14 million dollars, and two other smaller private banks at Chicago have also suspended payment.

THE WEST RIVER TRADE.

PROCLAMATION RE TRANSIT-PASSES.

The following translation, received from the British Consul at Canton, of a proclamation summarised in our last issue, which has been issued by the Kwangsi Licker Authority, has been forwarded to us from the Colonial Secretary's Office:

The following proclamation is issued for the public information.

His Excellency the Governor-General Tan has, through His Excellency Shih, Governor of this province, communicated to this office, an order with regard to half duty certificates. It appears therefore that on November 7th, 1896, a despatch was received from the Yunnan Yamen, stating that on 29th of October, 1896, the British Minister, Sir Claude MacDonald, had addressed that body on this subject.

The Minister referred to his previous communication, wherein he gave expression to the opinion that the terms of the proclamation issued at Wu-chou-fu were not sufficiently explicit to remove the apprehension existing in the minds of Chinese traders. On this ground he called for the issue of a fresh notification, in which, after a rehearsal of the Treaty provisions bearing on the question, should be embodied a clear enunciation of the following points. Firstly, in the case of foreign produce conveyed under Transit pass to no matter what point in the interior, there must on no account be any attempt, covert or overt, to make up the licker to which it would otherwise have been liable *en route*; and, secondly, that when foreign goods shall have been separated from the pass, the charges levied thereon shall in no case differ from those levied on goods that have satisfied the ordinary licker in transit. Sir Claude MacDonald went on to say that although on 13th of June the Yamen had given him to understand that it concurred with his views on this matter, yet the Provincial Government of the two Kwangs had not taken any steps to issue proclamations for the information of the mercantile class and the public generally. On this ground he called for the issue of a fresh notification, in which, after a rehearsal of the Treaty provisions bearing on the question, should be embodied a clear enunciation of the following points. Firstly, in the case of foreign produce conveyed under Transit pass to no matter what point in the interior, there must on no account be any attempt, covert or overt, to make up the licker to which it would otherwise have been liable *en route*; and, secondly, that when foreign goods shall have been separated from the pass, the charges levied thereon shall in no case differ from those levied on goods that have satisfied the ordinary licker in transit. Sir Claude MacDonald went on to say that although on 13th of June the Yamen had given him to understand that it concurred with his views on this matter, yet the Provincial Government of the two Kwangs had not taken any steps to issue proclamations for the information of the mercantile class and the public generally.

REUSSED TO ALLOW THIS EXTRA PAY,

and the reason given was that the troopers had money enough; they had come to fight and not to make money.

This in itself was disappointing enough, but worse followed, as rations ran short, and while the men starved, or very nearly so, their horses were also without proper fodder. When, added to these discomforts, the troopers were subjected to floggings and unnecessary inspections, it is not surprising that some of them grumbled. After making the best of this for a while, some of the less temperate spirits in "C" squadron "struck" and in this movement were joined by a number of their authorities.

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